

**Klag Lake Sockeye Salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*)
Stock Assessment Project: 2003 Annual Report and
2001–2003 Final Report**

by

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Divisions of Sport Fish and Commercial Fisheries



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Weights and measures (metric)		General		Measures (fisheries)	
centimeter	cm	Alaska Administrative		fork length	FL
deciliter	dL	Code	AAC	mid-eye-to-fork	MEF
gram	g	all commonly accepted		mid-eye-to-tail-fork	METF
hectare	ha	abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs., AM, PM, etc.	standard length	SL
kilogram	kg			total length	TL
kilometer	km	all commonly accepted			
liter	L	professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.	Mathematics, statistics	
meter	m			<i>all standard mathematical</i>	
milliliter	mL	at	@	<i>signs, symbols and</i>	
millimeter	mm	compass directions:		<i>abbreviations</i>	
		east	E	alternate hypothesis	H _A
Weights and measures (English)		north	N	base of natural logarithm	<i>e</i>
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s	south	S	catch per unit effort	CPUE
foot	ft	west	W	coefficient of variation	CV
gallon	gal	copyright	©	common test statistics	(F, t, χ^2 , etc.)
inch	in	corporate suffixes:		confidence interval	CI
mile	mi	Company	Co.	correlation coefficient	
nautical mile	nmi	Corporation	Corp.	(multiple)	R
ounce	oz	Incorporated	Inc.	correlation coefficient	
pound	lb	Limited	Ltd.	(simple)	r
quart	qt	District of Columbia	D.C.	covariance	cov
yard	yd	et alii (and others)	et al.	degree (angular)	°
		et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	degrees of freedom	df
Time and temperature		exempli gratia		expected value	<i>E</i>
day	d	(for example)	e.g.	greater than	>
degrees Celsius	°C	Federal Information		greater than or equal to	≥
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	Code	FIC	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
degrees kelvin	K	id est (that is)	i.e.	less than	<
hour	h	latitude or longitude	lat. or long.	less than or equal to	≤
minute	min	monetary symbols		logarithm (natural)	ln
second	s	(U.S.)	\$, ¢	logarithm (base 10)	log
		months (tables and		logarithm (specify base)	log ₂ etc.
Physics and chemistry		figures): first three		minute (angular)	'
all atomic symbols		letters	Jan,...,Dec	not significant	NS
alternating current	AC	registered trademark	®	null hypothesis	H ₀
ampere	A	trademark	™	percent	%
calorie	cal	United States		probability	P
direct current	DC	(adjective)	U.S.	probability of a type I error	
hertz	Hz	United States of		(rejection of the null	
horsepower	hp	America (noun)	USA	hypothesis when true)	α
hydrogen ion activity	pH	U.S.C.	United States	probability of a type II error	
(negative log of)			Code	(acceptance of the null	
parts per million	ppm	U.S. state	use two-letter	hypothesis when false)	β
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰		abbreviations	second (angular)	"
			(e.g., AK, WA)	standard deviation	SD
volts	V			standard error	SE
watts	W			variance	
				population	Var
				sample	var

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**KLAG LAKE SOCKEYE SALMON (*ONCORHYNCHUS NERKA*)
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2001–2003 FINAL REPORT**

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ABSTRACT

From 2001–2003, we estimated sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) escapement into Klag Lake, sockeye harvest in subsistence and sport fisheries in Klag Bay, and certain measures of freshwater productivity. In this report, we present results from 2003, compare them with published results from 2001 and 2002, and examine patterns in findings for all three years. Estimated escapement into Klag Lake was 23,000 sockeye salmon in 2003, up from 17,000 in 2002 and 12,000 in 2001. In 2003, subsistence fishers harvested about 2,400 sockeye salmon and 100 fish were taken in the sport fishery. The 2003 sockeye subsistence and sport harvest was lower than the 2002 harvest (3,000 fish), but higher than the 2001 harvest (1,700 fish). Sockeye harvests in 2001–2003 were not large relative to sockeye escapements in those years (9–15% of the total sockeye return), indicating these harvest levels are reasonable. However, harvest timing may disproportionately harvest more fish in the early part of the run. In 2002 and 2003, over 2,000 fish were harvested before equivalent numbers entered the lake as escapement. Seasonal mean zooplankton biomass increased from 175 mg·m⁻² in 2001 to 222 mg·m⁻² in 2002 to 316 mg·m⁻² in 2003. The cladoceran (*Daphnia longiremis*), the preferred food of sockeye fry, represented only about 2% of the total seasonal mean zooplankton biomass over the three years. Individual *D. longiremis* were smaller on average in 2003, having an average length of 0.7 mm, compared with 0.8 mm in the previous two years. We recommend continuing in-season assessment of sockeye returns to Klag Lake to ensure the escapement is adequate and proportional to the natural timing of the run.

Key words: Sockeye salmon, *Oncorhynchus nerka*, subsistence, Chichagof Island, Klag Lake, Sitka, escapement, fry, mark-recapture, weir, harvest survey, zooplankton.

INTRODUCTION

Klag Bay (*Kleix'*) belonged, under the traditional Tlingit ownership system, to the Chookeneidi clan of the Sitka Tlingits, and was the site of two villages, called Gagaxli.aan and Da ̀ kdeiyi Aan (Goldschmidt et al. 1998). By the late 1800s the villages were gone, but a few people continued to have houses and smokehouses in this area. One of these residents, Mr. Ralph Young, described the abundant resources his family used from this area:

We would stay in Sitka during the winter and in the spring and through the summer could fish and hunt at Klag Bay and vicinity... We did our seal hunting—and trapping and hunting for other animals—and got all sorts of seafood and seaweed from all the islands to the westward of these places... I have fished in all these areas during the last forty years... We picked berries from Klag Bay and Slocum Arm... There were halibut banks near Chichagof . [The stream in Klag Bay] was our one sockeye stream that gave us all the sockeyes we needed” (R. Young in Goldschmidt et al. 1998).

Sockeye (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) lakes were prized possessions among the Tlingit people, and higher status clans had the prestige and responsibility of managing fishing on these systems. Sitka clans claimed ownership rights to the productive sockeye system at Klag Bay. A conflict over ownership rights to the Klag Lake sockeye stream occurred in the early 1900s when clan owners tried to post the stream to keep commercial fishermen and other newcomers out; Dundas Bay cannery owners, backed by officials of the U.S. Government, objected and ordered the clan to remove their signs. The discovery of gold by Mr. Young in the late 1800s also brought mining, white settlement, and commerce to Klag Bay. Chichagof village, at the head of Klag Bay, was established in about 1905, received a U.S. Post Office in 1909, and by 1943 had a store, a stamp mill, and a dock (Orth 1971). The Chichagof and other gold mines in the vicinity shut down after World War II, and Chichagof village gradually disappeared. Throughout the gold mining and early commercial fishing period, people from Sitka related to traditional clan owners continued to travel to Klag Bay to fish for sockeye salmon and harvest other subsistence resources. During this period, however, clan ownership lines became blurred by intermarriage to

the extent that “all the people from Sitka who are Tlingit Natives are allowed to share in the food supply of the various clans” (R. Young in Goldschmidt et al. 1998).

Currently, Klag Lake is one of the larger producers of sockeye salmon in Southeast Alaska and is second or third in importance to Sitka residents, after Necker Bay and, depending on the season, Redoubt Lake. The abundance of Redoubt Lake sockeye salmon has fluctuated a great deal in recent times (Geiger 2003). In years when sockeye returns to Redoubt Lake are low and conservation measures are in place, subsistence users rely more heavily on the Klag Lake sockeye resource. Fisheries managers became concerned about increasing effort and large sockeye harvests in Klag Bay in some seasons. In the absence of adequate estimates of abundance for Klag Lake sockeye salmon, an Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Sitka Area Management biologist implemented conservative management practices when fishing effort appeared to be high. For example, he closed the subsistence fishery early in 1997, after observing few fish in the system during aerial surveys (Dave Gordon ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries, personal communication 2005). In 2000, the Sitka Tribe of Alaska, the U.S. Forest Service, and ADF&G responded to reports by fishermen and biologists about possible over-harvesting of Klag Lake sockeye stocks, and initiated a three-year sockeye monitoring project at Klag Lake.

ADF&G has compiled subsistence fishery data since 1985 from subsistence permit holders who returned their harvest information at the end of the season or upon requesting a permit for the following season. It appears from these data that the overall annual harvest and the average harvest per permit has increased since the 1990s (Appendix A1). For the 10-year period, 1994–2003, the average annual harvest of sockeye salmon from Klag Bay tripled from what it was in the preceding period, 1985–1993, and the number of permits issued annually for Klag Bay doubled over the same period. The average number of sockeye salmon harvested per permit increased from 23 to 30 since the mid-1980s. These reported annual harvest totals do not necessarily represent the actual sockeye harvest, because ADF&G does not independently verify the user-reported harvest numbers. Evidence from the few subsistence sockeye systems in which on-site harvest surveys have been conducted shows that harvest is typically, but not always, under-reported; the degree of under-reporting appears to be highly variable (Conitz and Cartwright 2003; Lewis and Cartwright 2004; Lorrigan et al. 2004).

A cannery at nearby Ford Arm was in operation from 1911 through 1924 (Rich and Ball 1933; Conitz and Cartwright 2002). During this period, sockeye salmon were commercially harvested in Klag Bay. Since that time, there has been no directed commercial fishery in the Klag Bay terminal area. The modern Khaz Bay commercial purse seine fishery normally opens in late July and includes Khaz Bay (sub-district 113-71), Sisters Lake and Lake Anna, and Slocum Arm (sub-district 113-73), but Klag Bay is normally closed at the narrows that separate it from the outer Khaz Bay (Dave Gordon ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries, personal communication 2005). Commercial seiners primarily target pink (*O. gorbuscha*) and chum (*O. keta*) salmon, and usually catch very few sockeye salmon (Appendix A2; ADF&G Commercial Fisheries database 2005). The highest sockeye harvests on record in the Khaz Bay seine fishery were 1,534 sockeye salmon in 1996 and 1,960 sockeye salmon in 1997. However, the Klag Lake sockeye stock caught in the commercial fishery cannot be distinguished from sockeye salmon returning to other systems.

Before the start of the Klag Lake subsistence sockeye salmon project, the only escapement data available for Klag Lake were aerial survey counts for some years. No information was available

on the juvenile sockeye populations or their rearing habitat prior to this study. The Klag Lake subsistence sockeye salmon project focuses on obtaining accurate sockeye escapement estimates annually—using a weir and mark-recapture methods to confirm the weir count. Another important project objective was to obtain accurate estimates of the sockeye harvest and effort information using direct observation and interviews on the fishing ground site. We assessed the small pelagic fish populations in Klag Lake, including sockeye fry, in 2001 and 2002. Ecological data, including zooplankton species assemblages and abundance and seasonal lake temperatures, dissolved oxygen levels, and irradiance, were collected in 2001–2003.

We report on the first three years of study for this project (2001–2003) in this paper. We present results from 2003 and a synthesis of results from all three years, 2001–2003, with recommendations for management and future study of this important subsistence sockeye system in the Sitka area (Figure 1).

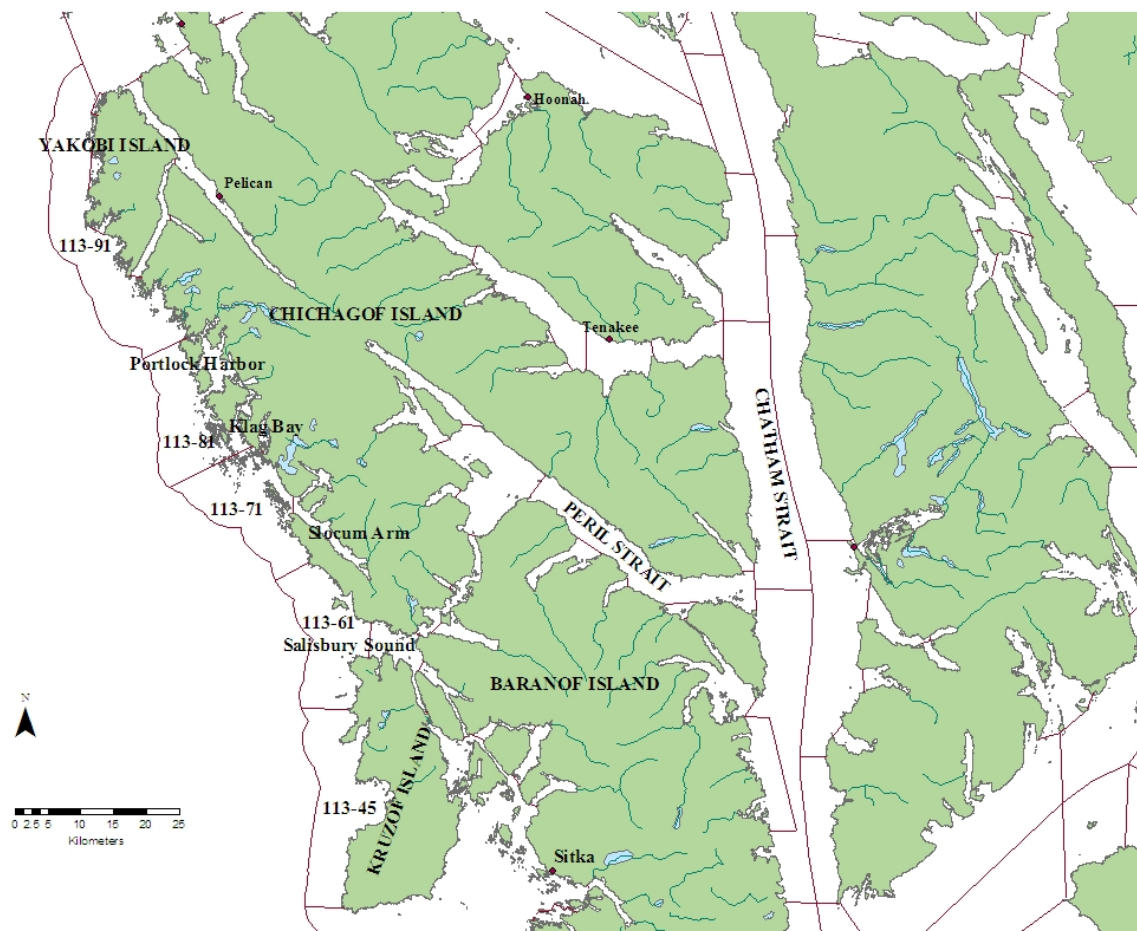


Figure 1.—Location of Klag Bay on Chichagof Island. The town of Sitka and commercial fishing districts along the outside coast of Chichagof Island are also shown.

OBJECTIVES

1. Estimate the escapement of sockeye salmon into Klag Lake, using a weir on the outlet stream of the lake with mark-recapture sampling on the spawning grounds, so that the estimated coefficient of variation is less than 10%.
2. Estimate the subsistence harvest of sockeye salmon from the terminal marine area around the mouth of the Klag Lake outlet stream, using direct observation and on-site interviews, so that the estimated coefficient of variation is less than 15%.
3. Estimate the age, length, and sex composition of the sockeye salmon in the Klag Lake escapement.
4. Estimate the productivity of Klag Lake using established ADF&G limnological sampling procedures.

METHODS

STUDY SITE

Klag Bay (N 57° 38.5', W 136° 42.2') is the outermost bay in a system of inland saltwater bays or lagoons, which also includes Lake Anna and Sister Lake. Klag Lake receives drainage from approximately seven square kilometers of sparsely wooded low hills, large areas of muskeg, and numerous small shallow lakes and ponds with a maximum elevation of 550 m. With a chain of small lakes streams and ponds to the northeast, Klag Lake has only one active salmon spawning stream. Many smaller streams drain into the lake but we did not observe any anadromous salmon spawning in these streams. Sockeye salmon are blocked from further upstream migration in the main stream by a 1.3 m high barrier falls approximately 500 m upstream, which coho salmon are able to breach. The lake itself is at a 12 m elevation and has a surface area of 83 hectares; the maximum lake depth is 43 m (Figure 2). The lake drains to the south via an outlet that flows through a series of three large ponds before emptying into the east side of Klag Bay. The extensive network of muskegs and ponds buffers flow through the system. Fish species found in Klag Lake include sockeye (*O. nerka*), pink (*O. gorbuscha*), coho (*O. kisutch*), and chum salmon (*O. keta*), steelhead (*O. mykiss*) and cutthroat trout (*O. clarki*), Dolly Varden char (*Salvelinus malma*), and threespine stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*).

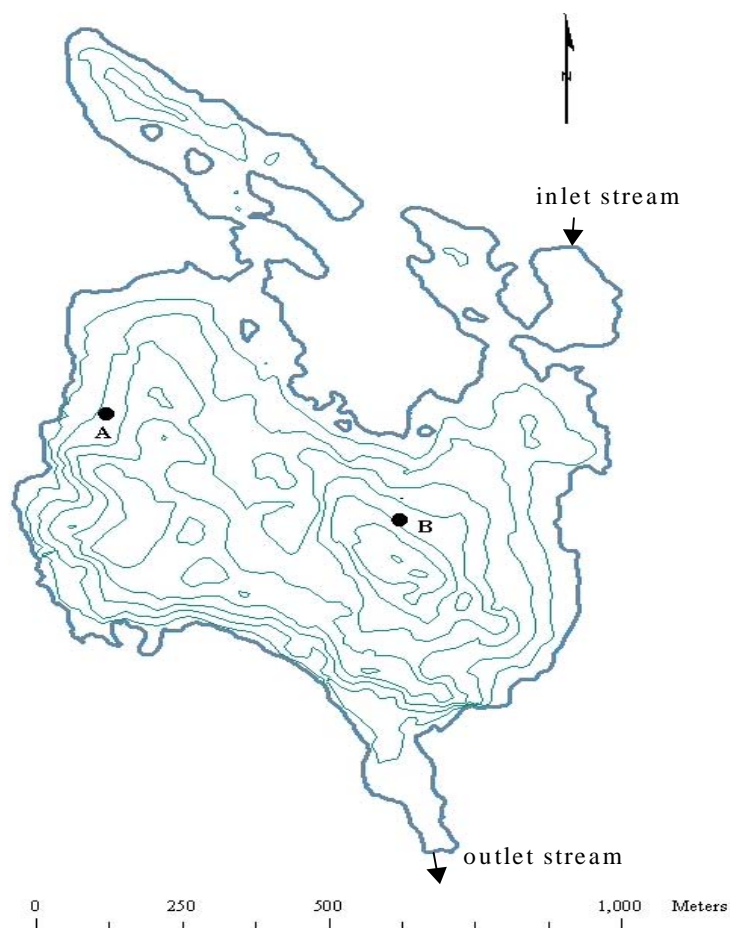


Figure 2.—Bathymetric map of Klag Lake, showing 5 m depth contours and two permanent limnology sampling stations (A and B).

SOCKEYE ESCAPEMENT ESTIMATES

Weir Count and Mark Recapture Study

We placed a rigid weir approximately 100 meters from the estuary, in the same location and with the same construction used in 2001 and 2002 (Conitz and Cartwright 2002). Migrating salmon, channeled into a trap, were counted by species and released upstream. We marked 20% of the sockeye salmon passing through the weir as part of a mark-recapture study to determine if the fish passed through the weir undetected. The crew systematically sampled sockeye salmon on a daily basis at the weir for sex, length, and scales, with a sampling goal of 600 sockeye salmon distributed through the run. We operated the weir continuously from 22 June to 13 September 2003.

We used a stratified, two-sample mark-recapture study design to estimate sockeye salmon escapement into Klag Lake (Arnason et al. 1995). The crew marked approximately 20% of the sockeye salmon that they passed through the weir with a primary and secondary mark. The primary mark was an adipose clip and three secondary marks were used throughout the season. Three marking strata, each representing about one-third of the total run, were identified by the secondary marks shown in Table 1.

Table 1.—Marking strata used at the Klag Lake weir, with identifying fin clip and dates used.

Stratum	Fin clip	Dates
1	Left Axillary	28 June–25 July
2	Left Ventral	26 July–10 August
3	Dorsal	11 August–13 September

We conducted the recovery phase of the mark-recapture study on the spawning grounds during the spawning period. The crew sampled and examined sockeye spawners for marks in all visual spawning areas. Both live and dead fish were sampled, without replacement—all sampled fish were given a third mark to prevent re-sampling.

Data Analysis

Darroch maximum-likelihood and least-squares, Schaefer population, and “pooled Petersen” estimates were calculated with the Stratified Population Analysis System (SPAS) software (Arnason et al. 1995; for details, refer to www.cs.umanitoba.ca/~popan/). SPAS allows the user to pool together some or all of the capture or recapture strata to get a more precise estimate of escapement, possibly at the expense of some bias. If a simple Petersen method is applied to stratified data that have been pooled, the resulting estimate is called the pooled Petersen estimate (Seber 1982). However, the Petersen estimate can be badly biased when the assumptions of equal probability of capture are violated. Briefly stated, the three assumptions of equal probability of capture are: 1) all fish have an equal probability of capture in the first event, 2) all fish have an equal probability of capture in the second event, and 3) fish mix completely between the first and second event. SPAS provides two types of chi-square tests to test whether the assumptions of equal probability of capture are likely to have been violated. The software developers included the test labeled Complete Mixing to test the assumption that there is no difference in probability of movement for fish marked in any first-event stratum to any second-event stratum. This test is equivalent to testing for a difference in capture probability for fish in the second event. The software developers included the test labeled Equal Proportions to test the assumption that there is no difference in probability of capture for fish marked in the first event. If both tests were significant ($p\text{-value} \leq 0.05$), we used the less precise Darroch stratified population estimate. If the test statistic from at least one of these tests was not significant ($p\text{-value} > 0.05$), we concluded that we met the assumptions of complete mixing and equal capture probability. Even if one of the test statistics was significant ($p\text{-value} \leq 0.05$), we considered this to be insufficient evidence of a problem with the pooled Petersen estimate, and concluded that partial or complete pooling could still be valid (Arnason et al. 1995). Other criteria were also examined, including changes in the escapement estimate after pooling. If pooling led to a small change, we concluded that it was probably safe to pool; however, we interpreted a big change in the estimate as an indication the pooled Petersen estimate may be badly biased. Using the chi-square tests in SPAS as guidelines, we attempted to pool as many strata as possible to increase precision.

When use of the pooled Petersen method was warranted, we used the following method to estimate a 95% confidence interval for escapement size, rather than the method provided in the SPAS software. We let K denote the number of fish marked in a random sample of a population of size N . We let C denote number of fish examined for marks at a later time, and let R denote

number of fish in the second sample with a mark. The number of fish in the escapement, N , is estimated by:

$$\hat{N} = \frac{(K+1)(C+1)}{(R+1)} - 1.$$

In this equation, R is a random variable, and can be assumed to follow a Poisson, binomial, hypergeometric, or normal distribution, depending on circumstances of sampling. When R is large compared with the size of the second sample, C , its distribution can be assumed to be approximately normal (a practical check is to ensure R is at least 30 before using the normal approximation). Let \hat{p} be an estimate of the proportion of marked fish in the population, p , such that $\hat{p} = \frac{R}{C}$. We constructed approximate confidence interval bounds around \hat{p} based on the assumption that R follows some sampling distribution. We defined the confidence bounds as $(a_{0.025}, a_{0.975})$. The 95% confidence interval bounds for the escapement size, N , were estimated by taking reciprocals of the confidence interval bounds for p , and multiplying by K . That is, confidence bounds for escapement size are estimated by:

$$(K \cdot 1/a_{0.975}, K \cdot 1/a_{0.025}).$$

If $\hat{p} \geq 0.1$, and the size of the second sample C is at least the minimum listed in Table 2, a 95% confidence interval for p is estimated by:

$$\hat{p} \pm \left[1.96 \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{C}{\hat{N}}\right) \cdot \hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})/(C - 1) + \frac{1}{2C}} \right], \text{ (Seber 1982, eq. 3.4).}$$

Table 2.—Sample size criteria for using Seber’s (1982) eq. 3.4 to construct 95% confidence interval for a proportion. For given proportion of marked fish observed in the second sample \hat{p} , minimum sizes for the second sample are indicated.

\hat{p} or 1- \hat{p}	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1
Minimum sample size	30	50	80	200	600

Seber’s (1982) eq. 3.4 was also used when $\hat{p} < 0.1$ if $R > 50$. If these criteria were not met, the confidence interval bounds for p were found from Table 41 in Pearson and Hartley (1966).

Escapement Age and Size Distribution

Scales, matched with sex and length data, were collected from adult sockeye salmon at the Klag Lake weir to describe the age and size structure of each population. The sampling goal was 600 fish. Fish were selected systematically (e.g. every fifth fish) to prevent selection bias, throughout the entire run. Three scales were taken from the preferred area of each fish (INPFC 1963), and prepared for analysis as described by Clutter and Whitesel (1956). Scale samples were aged by technicians at ADF&G Salmon Aging Laboratory in Douglas, Alaska. Age and length data were

paired for each fish sample. Age classes were designated by the European aging system where freshwater and saltwater years are separated by a period (e.g. 1.3 denotes 1-year freshwater and 3-years saltwater; Koo 1962). Brood year tables were compiled by sex and brood year to describe the age structure of the returning adult sockeye salmon population. The length of each fish was measured from mid-eye-to-tail-fork to the nearest millimeter (mm).

The proportion p_k of each age-sex group k was estimated as \hat{p}_k by the standard binomial formula, with associated standard error (SE), where n_k is the number of samples in age-sex group k and n is the total number of samples aged:

$$\hat{p}_k = \frac{n_k}{n} \text{ and } SE(\hat{p}_k) = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}_k(1 - \hat{p}_k)}{n - 1}} \text{ (Thompson 1992, p. 35–36).}$$

The mean length and associated standard error for age-sex group k were calculated by standard normal methods:

$$\bar{y}_k = \frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{i=1}^{n_k} y_{ki} \text{ and } SE(\bar{y}_k) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n_k} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{n_k - 1} \right) \sum_{i=1}^{n_k} (y_{ki} - \bar{y}_k)^2} \text{ (Thompson 1992, p. 42–43).}$$

SUBSISTENCE HARVEST ESTIMATE

We used a one-stage stratified sampling design (Cochran 1977) to estimate sockeye salmon harvest and fishing effort in the subsistence and sport fisheries at Klag Bay. Subsistence fishing was open at the Klag Lake terminal area from 1 June to 25 July and 2 through 31 August 2003. Sport fishing was open during these same periods. The primary sampling unit was boat-parties within a day. This design was appropriate because participating boats could be accurately counted and most parties could be interviewed after they completed fishing. We stratified the data by gear type: hook and line (sport), gillnet (subsistence) and seine net (subsistence). The sampling day included all daylight hours, and the crew was able to monitor the fishery seven days a week. Experience showed that samplers could interview nearly all groups participating in the subsistence and sport fisheries. The exception was those boat parties that chose to leave the area without completing an interview. The crew recorded these as missed interviews. If the sampler was able to estimate a catch from observation or third person reporting, he or she entered the estimate in the comment column.

As a fishing boat entered the area, the sampler contacted the group by radio or by motoring out, gave a short explanation of the creel survey, determined the group's sport or subsistence gear use, and requested that the boat party contact the samplers as they prepared to leave the area so the interview could be completed. Data collected during each interview included angler effort (rod or net hours), gear type used, and harvest by species. If the technician was unable to interview a party because two or more boats were leaving at the same time, he or she randomly chose one boat using a coin toss. Samplers maintained a view of the fishing area during the entire sampling period. Boat parties that left the fishery without being interviewed were counted according to their previously identified sport or subsistence gear use, along with any other known information.

Equations for estimating harvest, catch, and effort in each harvest survey were those for a one-stage direct expansion (access point, completed-trip interview) survey (Cochran 1977; Conitz et al. 2002). We let h_{gj} = harvest on boat j using gear g , m_g = number of boat parties interviewed

using gear g , and M_g = number of boat-parties counted using gear g . We estimated the harvest (by species and gear group g) as follows,

$$\hat{H}_g = \frac{M_g}{m_g} \sum_{j=1}^{m_g} h_{gj}.$$

Letting \bar{h}_g denote the mean harvest per boat for the g^{th} gear group, the variance of the harvest by stratum was estimated as,

$$\text{var}(\hat{H}_g) = (1 - \frac{m_g}{M_g}) M_g^2 \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{m_g} (h_{gj} - \bar{h}_g)^2}{m_g (m_g - 1)}.$$

If all boat parties in a gear group were interviewed, estimated harvest by species was simply the sum of harvest on individual boats. Effort was estimated similarly, substituting E for H in the equations above. Subsistence total harvest for the season was the sum of harvests for gillnet and seine groups.

LIMNOLOGY SAMPLING

Limnology sampling was conducted at Klag Lake on 29 June, 6 August, and 12 September 2003. On each sampling date, technicians measured light, temperature, and dissolved oxygen profiles at the main sampling station (A), and collected one zooplankton sample at each station (A and B).

Light, Temperature, and Dissolved Oxygen Profiles

Underwater light intensity was recorded from just below the surface to the depth where measured intensity was one percent of the surface light reading, at 0.5 m intervals, using a photometer (Protomatic). The vertical light extinction coefficients (K_d) were estimated as the slope of the light intensity (natural log of percent subsurface light) versus depth. The euphotic zone depth (EZD) was defined as the depth to which one percent of the subsurface light [photosynthetically available radiation (400–700nm)] penetrates the lake surface (Schindler 1971), and was calculated from the equation, $\text{EZD} = 4.6205 / K_d$ (Kirk 1994).

Temperature and dissolved oxygen (DO) profiles were measured with a Yellow Springs Instruments (YSI) Model 58 DO meter and probe, in relative (percent of saturation) and absolute (mg L^{-1}) values for DO and in $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for temperature. We measured these lake characteristics at 1 m intervals for the first 10 m or the lower boundary of the thermocline (defined as the depth at which the change in temperature decreased to less than 1°C per meter), and thereafter at 5 m intervals to within 2 m of the bottom (or 50 m). The dissolved oxygen meter reading at 1 m was calibrated at the beginning of a sampling trip using the value from a 60 ml Winkler field titration (Koenings et al. 1987).

Secondary Production

Zooplankton samples were collected at two stations using a 0.5 m diameter, 153- μm mesh, 1:3 conical net. Vertical zooplankton tows were pulled from a maximum depth of 50 m, or 2 m from the bottom of the lake if shallower than 50 m, at a constant speed of 0.5 m sec^{-1} . The net was rinsed before removing the organisms, and all specimens were preserved in neutralized buffered 10% formalin (Koenings et al. 1987). ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Limnology Laboratory in

Soldotna, Alaska identified zooplankton subsamples to genus or species, estimated the total number of zooplankton by species and calculated an estimate of zooplankton density and biomass for the whole lake in 2001 and 2002 (Conitz et al. 2002; Koenings et al. 1987). Zooplankton density (individuals per m² surface area) and biomass (weight per m² surface area) were estimated by species and by the sum of all species (referred to as total zooplankton density or biomass).

RESULTS

SOCKEYE ESCAPEMENT ESTIMATES

Weir Count and Mark Recapture Estimates

We installed a weir in the Klag Lake outlet stream on 22 June 2003; the first nine sockeye salmon were counted through on 28 June (Appendix B). Sockeye escapement was very light for the next month, with no fish passing the weir on numerous days. On 29 July, rainfall raised the water level in the system and a surge of about 4,600 sockeye salmon passed through the weir. A second peak escapement day occurred on 15 August; these two peak escapements and a smaller peak on 2 September occurred in conjunction with peak water levels in the system (Figure 3). The total count for the 2003 season was 22,799 sockeye salmon. Additionally, we counted 3,681 coho salmon, 34,119 pink salmon, and 14 chum salmon through the Klag Lake weir.

The crew marked 4,634 of the 22,799 sockeye salmon counted through the weir, or about 20% of the escapement at the weir (Table 3). The crew marked a high proportion of the small number of sockeye salmon passing through the weir in the first stratum; in the second and third marking periods, the established marking rate 20% was maintained.

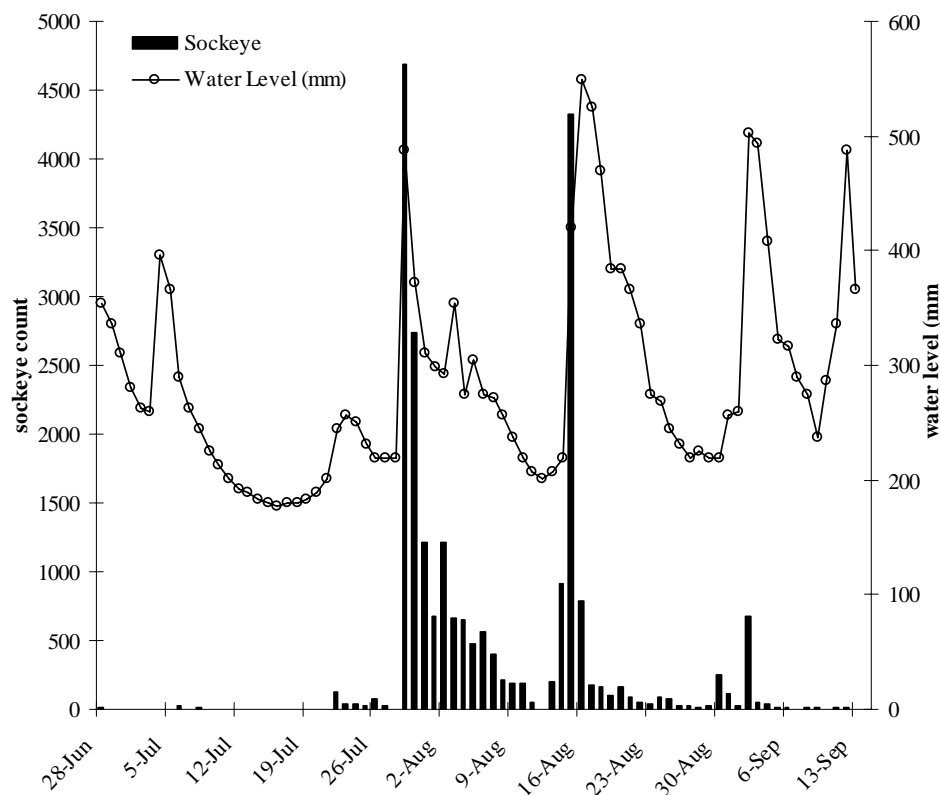


Figure 3.—Daily counts of sockeye salmon through the Klag Lake weir and associated water level in the stream near the weir in 2003.

The crew conducted the recovery phase of the mark-recapture study on the spawning grounds between 28 August through 1 September and on 15 September. They sampled 1,587 sockeye salmon, and recaptured 310 marked sockeye fish (Table 3). The first three recapture events were so close together that there was probably no biological difference between them, but because they were during the peak spawning period, it is likely that many new fish immigrated into the spawning stream between each of these three recapture events.

A first analysis with the SPAS program, using three marking strata and four recapture strata designated by the crew, failed to converge upon a maximum-likelihood Darroch estimate. However, one of the chi-square tests, “equal proportions,” had a non-significant p -value of 0.42 and thus failed to indicate a problem with one assumption of equal probability of capture. Although the test for “complete mixing” was significant at p -value<0.01, our criteria indicate that if either one of the tests is non-significant, we have insufficient evidence that we failed to meet assumptions of equal probability of capture and can proceed with pooling in order to increase precision. Because the first marking stratum was too small, and had a marking rate inconsistent with the study design and the other strata, this stratum was an obvious candidate for pooling. Pooling the first and second marking strata (Table 4) permitted the SPAS program to arrive at a valid maximum-likelihood Darroch estimate of 22,947 fish (SE=1,258). Rounding estimate was about 23,000 sockeye salmon (SE=1,300). The chi-square results were unchanged by this partial pooling. The pooled Petersen estimate, in comparison, was 23,666 fish (SE=1,161; 95% CI 21,604–26,303). The rounded pooled Petersen estimates was 24,000 fish (SE=1,200; 95% CI 22,000–26,000). The fact that the Darroch estimate and the pooled Petersen estimate were the same, within the limits of precision of each, provided

further evidence there were no detectable problems with mark-recapture assumptions and pooling probably did not lead to bias. Other partial pooling schemes were also considered, such as pooling the first two or three recapture strata, but they did not lead to any improvement in precision or goodness-of-fit according to the chi-square results. The weir count of 22,799 sockeye salmon fell within confidence interval bounds of the pooled Petersen estimate, so we concluded the weir count did not significantly underestimate actual escapement. The weir count was the official escapement number for Klag Lake in 2003.

Table 3.—Numbers of sockeye salmon marked at the Klag Lake weir, numbers of sockeye salmon sampled in the spawning stream, and numbers of marked fish recaptured for 2003.

Phase	Stratum	Dates	Total Marked			
Marking	1 (early)	28 Jun–25 Jul	210			
	2 (middle)	26 Jul-10 Aug	2,691			
	3 (late)	11 Aug-13 Sept	1,733			
Total Marked			4,634			
				Number recaptures by stratum		
Sample Size				1	2	3
Recapture	1	28 Aug	425	11	68	5
	2	29 Aug	319	2	43	11
	3	01 Sep	528	0	70	29
	4	15 Sep	315	0	31	40
Total Sampled:			1,587			
Total recaptures (all strata):				310		

Table 4.—Partial pooling of recapture strata in Klag Lake 2003 weir mark-recapture dataset.

Phase	Stratum	Dates	Total Marked			
Marking	1 +2 (early + middle)	28 Jun–10 Aug	2,901			
	3 (late)	11 Aug–13 Sep	1,733			
Total Marked			4,634			
				Number recaptures by stratum		
				Sample Size	1+2	3
Recapture	1	28 Aug	425	79	5	
	2	29 Aug	319	45	11	
	3	1 Sep	528	70	29	
	4	15 Sep	315	31	40	
Total Sampled:			1,587			
Total recaptures (all strata):				310		

Escapement Age and Size Distribution

The crew collected scales, sex, and length data from 675 sockeye salmon at the Klag Lake weir in 2003. Ages were determined for 638 of the fish that were sampled; scales from the remaining 39 fish could not be aged. As in the previous year, the largest class was age-1.3, comprising 37% of the total sample, and the second largest class was age 1.2 comprising of 23% of the total sample (Table 5). The average mid eye to fork length of all fish in the sample was 515 mm. The age-1.3 fish were largest, with an average length of 553 mm; the older age 2.3 fish were somewhat smaller, averaging 546 mm in length (Table 6). A few jacks, age 1.1 and 2.1 males, were among the sampled fish, with average lengths of 354 mm and 380 mm, respectively.

Table 5.—Age and sex composition of sockeye salmon sampled from the Klag Lake escapement in 2003.

	Brood Year	2000	1999	1998	1999	1998	1997	
	Age	1.1	1.2	1.3	2.1	2.2	2.3	All ages
Males								
Sample size		25	96	115	8	59	48	351
Percent		3.9%	15.0%	18.0%	1.3%	9.2%	7.5%	55.0%
Standard Error		0.8%	1.4%	1.5%	0.4%	1.1%	1.0%	2.0%
Females								
Sample size			50	118		67	52	287
Percent		0.0%	7.8%	18.5%	0.0%	10.5%	8.2%	45.0%
Standard Error		0.0%	1.1%	1.5%	0.0%	1.2%	1.1%	2.0%
All Fish								
Sample size		25	146	233	8	126	100	638
Percent		3.9%	22.9%	36.5%	1.3%	19.7%	15.7%	100.0%
Standard Error		0.8%	1.7%	1.9%	0.4%	1.6%	1.4%	0.0%

Table 6.—Mean fork length (mm) of sockeye salmon sampled from the Klag Lake escapement in 2003, by sex and age class.

	Brood Year	2000	1999	1998	1999	1998	1997	
	Age	1.1	1.2	1.3	2.1	2.2	2.3	Not aged
Male								
Av. Length (mm)		354	484	554	380	500	548	502
SE (av. length)		4.0	2.8	2.3	9.9	2.6	3.6	11.4
Sample Size		25	96	114	8	59	48	24
Female								
Av. Length (mm)			494	552		495	545	515
SE (av. length)			2.9	1.6		2.6	2.5	8.5
Sample Size			50	117		67	52	15
All Fish								
Av. Length (mm)		354	487	553	380	497	546	507
SE (av. length)		4.0	2.1	1.4	9.9	1.9	2.1	7.7
Sample Size		25	146	231	8	126	100	39

SUBSISTENCE HARVEST ESTIMATE

Subsistence fishing opened at the Klag Lake terminal area on 1 June and was closed by emergency order on 25 July 2003 (ADF&G Emergency Order 1-S-47-03); sport fishing was open from 1 January through the 25 July closure (ADF&G Emergency Order 1-29-03). The closure was ordered because the subsistence harvest up to the closure date greatly exceeded the escapement. Daily totals of between 100–450 sockeye salmon were harvested on at least eight days prior to the closure, and nearly the entire harvest was taken before 25 July (Figure 4). When a large number of salmon entered the freshwater following rain and rising water levels, the first emergency order was rescinded by a new emergency order re-opening subsistence fishing in Klag Bay from 2-31 August (ADF&G Emergency Order 1-S-50-03). However, very few fish were harvested during the later opening.

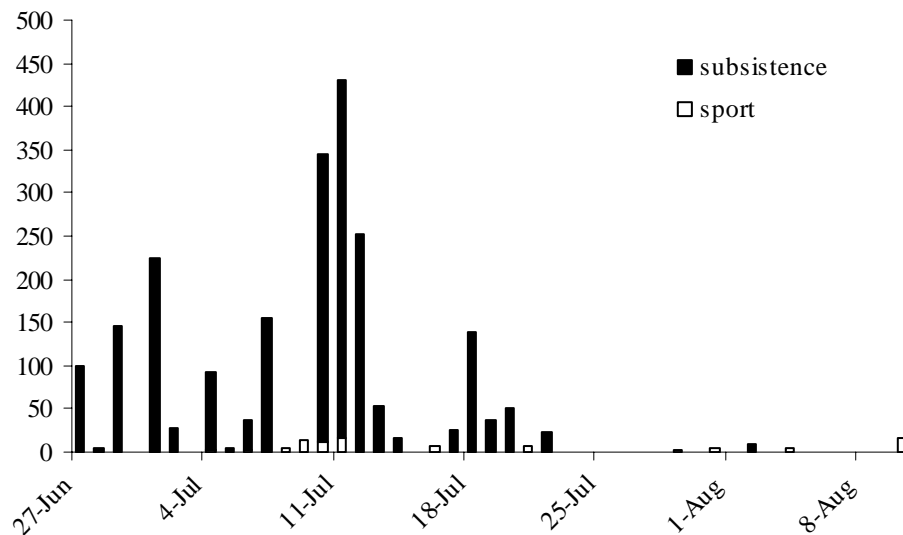


Figure 4.—Daily harvest of sockeye salmon in the subsistence and sport fisheries at Klag Bay terminal area, 2003.

The total estimated subsistence harvest was 2,377 (SE=236) sockeye salmon, rounded to 2,400 (SE=240) and the total estimated sport harvest was 111 sockeye salmon (SE=8), rounded to 100 (SE=10; Table 7). A few chum, pink, and coho salmon were also harvested incidentally. Out of 55 sport and subsistence fishing boats counted in the area, the crew interviewed 50 fishers. Approximately half the fishers used gillnets and the other half used seine nets (Table 7).

Table 7.—Boat groups counted and interviewed in subsistence and sport harvest surveys and estimated harvest of salmon, by gear type, at the Klag Bay terminal area in 2003.

Gear Type	Boats Counted	Boats Interviewed	Sockeye	Chum	Pink	Coho
Seine	13	12	1,205 (141)	3 (1)	10 (3)	1
Gillnet	15	13	1,172 (95)	14 (4)	12 (2)	22 (5)
Sport	27	25	111 (8)	3 (1)	0	5 (1)
Total, subsistence	28	25	2,377 (236)	17 (4)	21 (5)	23 (5)
Total, all gear	55	50	2,488 (244)	20 (5)	21 (5)	28 (6)

Note: Estimated standard errors (SE) of the harvest estimates are indicated in parentheses next to each estimate.

LIMNOLOGY SAMPLING

Light, Temperature, and Dissolved Oxygen Profiles

The 2003 seasonal average euphotic zone depth (EZD) was 4.6 m and remained fairly consistent throughout the season (Table 8).

Table 8.–Euphotic zone depths in Klag Lake, 2003.

Sampling Date	EZD (m)
29 June	4.7
6 August	4.6
12 September	4.6
Seasonal Average	4.6

Klag Lake was thermally stratified throughout the 2003 summer season. The thermocline had developed between 6 and 8 m by the 29 June sampling date, and persisted through the 12 September sampling date (Figure 5).

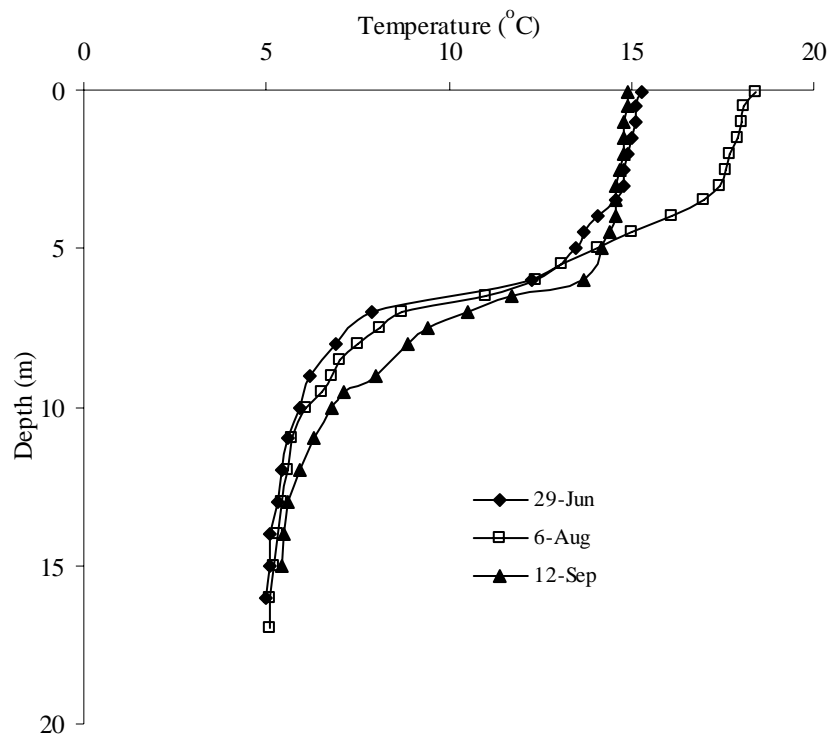


Figure 5.–Water column temperature profiles in Klag Lake 2003.

Dissolved oxygen levels in Klag Lake varied from 86–87% saturation just below the surface to a minimum of 59% saturation at 7 m on 12 September (Table 9). At depths below 5 m, dissolved oxygen levels declined through the season.

Table 9.–Water column dissolved oxygen profiles in Klag Lake, 2003.

Depth (m)	<u>Percent oxygen saturation, by date</u>		
	29-Jun	6-Aug	12-Sep
0.05	87.4	85.9	86.0
1.0	86.5	86.1	82.9
2.0	82.7	80.2	82.1
3.0	83.3	80.8	79.1
4.0	82.6	73.0	78.4
5.0	82.1	67.1	73.6
6.0	81.7	69.2	70.6
7.0	81.3	75.0	58.7
8.0	84.3	76.4	62.7
9.0	79.3	76.8	66.5
10.0	81.0	75.1	67.4
11.0	79.2	75.8	68.1
12.0	75.2	76.0	67.7
13.0	78.9	74.1	68.2
14.0	78.5	73.8	67.9
15.0	78.6	73.5	67.9
16.0	77.8	74.7	
17.0		70.9	

Secondary Production

As in previous years, the zooplankton assemblage in Klag Lake was dominated by the small cladoceran *Bosmina* sp., which comprised nearly 75% of zooplankton numbers (Table 10). The copepods *Cyclops* sp. and *Epischura* comprised most of the remaining zooplankton assemblage. The large cladoceran *Daphnia longiremis*, which is a preferred prey for sockeye fry (A. Mazumder, University of Victoria, personal communication), made up only about 1% of the zooplankton assemblage in Klag Lake.

Table 10.—Density (numbers per m²) of macrozooplankton, by taxon, in Klag Lake, 2003, averaged between Stations A and B.

	<u>Density (1000s· m⁻²), by sampling date</u>				Percent of Total
	29-Jun	6-Aug	12-Sep	Seasonal Mean	
<i>Bosmina</i>	174	212	62	149	74%
Ovig. <i>Bosmina</i>	0	0	0	0	0%
<i>Daphnia longirermis</i>	2	1	2	2	1%
Ovig. <i>D. longirermis</i>	1	0	0	1	0%
<i>Holopedium</i>	3	0	1	1	1%
Ovig. <i>Holopedium</i>	0	0	0	0	0%
<i>Cyclops</i>	52	29	15	32	16%
Ovig. <i>Cyclops</i>	16	2	1	7	3%
<i>Epischura</i>	13	12	10	11	6%
Seasonal Mean Density, All Taxa				203	

Note: Ovigerous (egg-bearing) individuals in each taxa were measured separately.

The cladocerans in the Klag Lake zooplankton assemblage were very small, and because the copepods were much larger, on average, they comprised the majority of the zooplankton biomass (Table 11). At only 0.3 mm in length, the *Bosmina* are smaller than optimum prey size for sockeye fry. *Daphnia* are preferred because of their larger size, but the average length of *Daphnia* in the Klag Lake assemblage was small for this species.

Table 11.—Size and biomass of macrozooplankton in Klag Lake, 2003, averaged between Stations A and B.

	<u>Average length (mm)</u>			Weighted mean length (mm)	Weighted biomass (mg·m ⁻²)	Percent of total biomass
	29 Jun	6 Aug	12 Sep			
<i>Bosmina</i>	0.31	0.28	0.32	0.30	120.60	38.1%
Ovig. <i>Bosmina</i>	0.62		0.39	0.39	0.10	0.0%
<i>Daphnia longirermis</i>	0.66	0.63	0.60	0.63	3.07	1.0%
Ovig. <i>D. longirermis</i>	1.02	0.83	0.84	0.93	2.41	0.8%
<i>Holopedium</i>	0.52	0.51	0.51	0.53	3.43	1.1%
Ovig. <i>Holopedium</i>	0.59	0.61	0.60	0.60	0.71	0.2%
<i>Cyclops</i>	0.92	0.78	0.75	0.83	79.70	25.2%
Ovig. <i>Cyclops</i>	1.19	0.96	0.83	1.14	31.07	9.8%
<i>Epischura</i>	1.35	1.00	1.12	1.15	75.18	23.8%
Total Seasonal Mean Biomass					316.3	

Note: Mean lengths are weighted by density (numbers · m⁻²) at each sampling date and seasonal mean biomass is based on the weighted mean length. Ovigerous (egg-bearing) individuals in each taxa were measured separately.

DISCUSSION

We met all objectives for the Klag Lake sockeye salmon project from 2001 to 2003 and have produced estimates of sockeye harvest and escapement in the Klag Lake system that are contributing to better management of the fishery in this system. In addition, we gathered supporting information, including adult sockeye age compositions, sockeye fry and stickleback population estimates, zooplankton biomass estimates, and water column light, temperature, and dissolved oxygen profiles.

The returns of sockeye salmon to the Klag Lake system appeared to be able to support an intense harvest in the terminal area at the same time as allowing 85–91% of the total return to escape into the lake to spawn (Table 12). From 2001–2003, the total return of sockeye salmon to Klag Lake increased each year. The number of sockeye salmon escaping into Klag Lake exceeded the number harvested in the marine terminal area by 6–10 times over the three years of this study. The total sockeye harvest fluctuated around an average of about 2,400 sockeye salmon. Total harvests reported by subsistence users who returned their permits to ADF&G were roughly the same as the harvest estimates generated from our on-site surveys. In 2002, the harvest reported by permit holders exceeded the on-site estimate of sockeye salmon by 25%. This indicates that the interviewers did not observe all the boats fishing in the bay. Although the reported sockeye harvest in 2003 was also less than the on-site estimate of harvest, improvements to the protocol in 2003 narrowed the difference substantially (Table 12). Despite the accurate reporting on ADF&G subsistence permits, we recommend that the on-site fishery interviews continue so that managers have an in-season estimate of the total return to Klag Bay, can protect the early part of the run from being over-fished, and can close and open the fishery in-season if are necessary.

Table 12.—Summary of escapement and harvest estimates for Klag Lake sockeye salmon, 2001–2003.

Year	Total return	Escapement	<u>Total Harvest</u>		Percent of total return attributed to escapement
			On-site survey	Returned permits	
2001	13,700	12,000	1,700	1,300	88%
2002	20,000	17,000	3,000	4,000	85%
2003	25,400	23,000	2,400	2,500	91%

Note: Harvest estimates collected on-site are considered more accurate than ADF&G subsistence permit records. However, the 2002 Klag Lake on-site survey was considerably less than the reported harvest on the permits, which indicates that the interviewers did not observe all the boats.

The high harvest of sockeye salmon at the beginning of the run in Klag Bay did cause the marine terminal area fisheries close early in 2002 and 2003. By the third week in July, in both years, total sockeye harvests greatly exceeded the numbers of sockeye salmon that had escaped into the Klag Lake stream. The fish stayed in the bay during a period in July when the weather was dry and water in the stream was low. Consequently, large schools of sockeye salmon in Klag Bay were vulnerable to fishing nets and hooks during periods of low water. The subsistence and sport fisheries were closed by emergency order before the end of July as a precaution until more sockeye salmon started moving into the stream. Surges in escapement, coinciding with increasing water levels in the stream in both years, raised cumulative escapement numbers enough that managers were willing to reopen the fisheries in August. However, not many fish were harvested after the closure, despite the abundance of sockeye salmon returning to Klag Lake in both years.

The timing of the subsistence sockeye harvest with respect to the timing of escapement could be important if subsistence fishers disproportionately remove more sockeye salmon during the beginning of the season. Subsistence sockeye fishing usually takes place starting in late June to early July in Southeast Alaska, and usually does not continue much beyond early August. The typical harvest season at Klag Bay was shorter and ended earlier than the season in the overall Sitka management area, according to subsistence users' reports from 1985–2000 (Table 13). The timing of the Klag Bay harvest surveys in 2001–2003 appears to be similar to the reported harvest timing for 1985–2000. Escapement timing at the Klag Lake weir in 2001–2003 was relatively late compared with the usual harvest timing (Lorrigan et al. 2004; Conitz and Cartwright 2002; Tables 13 and 14). In some years, the subsistence fishers could have taken the total return of sockeye salmon before the first one-quarter of the run had escaped into the stream in 2001–2003. The first quartile was particularly late in 2002 (8 August) although by the following day half of the run had entered the stream. Escapement timing into the Klag Lake stream appeared to be dominated by large surges of fish on a few days, coinciding with peak water levels in the stream in late July to mid-August. The concern from a fisheries management viewpoint is that a large proportion of a given year's sockeye run could potentially be harvested in low water conditions when return spawners are staging in the bay. If these fish arrive, enter the system, and spawn earlier than others, harvest of a major proportion of these fish could alter the genetic makeup of the stock with respect to timing.

Table 13.—Reported dates of subsistence sockeye harvest in the Sitka management area, which includes Klag Bay, and reported harvest dates for Klag Bay.

Subsistence Harvest 1985–2000		First harvest date	Midpoint	Last harvest date
Sitka area-all	Date range	7 April–27 June	20–31 July	15 Aug–8 Dec
	Median date	15 June	26 July	26 Aug
Klag Bay	Date range	19 June–29 July	11–30 July	26 July–20 Aug
	Median date	1 July	19 July	4 Aug

Note: Dates were reported on returned subsistence permits and were not independently verified (ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries database 2005).

Table 14.—Summary of sockeye run timing through the Klag Lake weir, 2001–2003.

Year	2001	2002	2003
First count	6 Jul	4 Jul	28 Jun
First quartile	26 Jul	8 Aug	30 Jul
Midpoint	15 Aug	9 Aug	3 Aug
Third quartile	27 Aug	15 Aug	15 Aug
Last count	9 Sep	11 Sep	12 Sep

Source: (Conitz and Cartwright 2002; Lorrigan et al. 2004; Appendix B).

Although the Klag Lake sockeye population appears to be healthy, the spawning habitat is not considered ideal for salmon. The substrate is comprised mainly of large immovable angular cobble and bedrock. Sockeye spawners jostle amongst themselves for any space over the stream bottom in which to broadcast their eggs. Foerster (1968) described similar habitat on the Skeena River, where he observed sockeye spawners broadcasting their eggs into cracks and interstices of the creek bottom. Furthermore, the inlet stream is very short—creating a high density of

spawners in this stream. Apparently, subsequent waves of spawners cause little disturbance of redds, and the fertilized eggs are layered on top of each other.

We estimated sockeye fry populations in only two years, 2001 and 2002. Because escapement was not estimated in 2000, only one fry estimate can be linked to the parent-year escapement estimate (2002 fry population with 2001 escapement). We will not have estimates of returns from these fry populations until 2004–2007.

In addition to sockeye fry, three sticklebacks are a prominent part of the freshwater community in Klag Lake—in some years outnumbering sockeye fry (Table 15). Sockeye fry are selective feeders, targeting larger and slower-moving cladocerans (*Daphnia*) whenever possible (Koenings et al. 1987). Because sticklebacks and sockeye fry reside in the pelagic area of lakes and are both planktivores, the competition between stickleback and sockeye fry could potentially limit sockeye production in Klag Lake (Beauchamp and Overman 2003). Indeed, the low number of *Daphnia* in Klag Lake compared to the higher number of the smaller cladoceran (*Bosmina*) and copepods (Table 16; Appendix C) suggest that the grazing pressure on the larger cladocerans is high. However, compared with other small sockeye rearing lakes in Southeast Alaska in 2002, Klag Lake produced relatively high numbers of large fry (Table 17). This implies that the zooplankton resource is adequate in Klag Lake at the current levels of planktivore (stickleback and sockeye fry) abundance.

Table 15.—Estimated numbers of sockeye fry and sticklebacks in Klag Lake, 2001 and 2002, based on the estimated total number of acoustic targets and the proportion of each species found in trawl samples.

Year	Total sockeye (n_{so})	Total sticklebacks (n_{st})	All fish (n)
2001	54,000 (38)	195,000 (138)	249,000 (176)
2002	127,000 (136)	62,000 (66)	188,000 (202)

Note: Trawl sample sizes (n) and numbers of sockeye fry (n_{so}) and sticklebacks (n_{st}) in the samples are shown in parentheses next to the population estimate.

Table 16.—Comparison of pelagic fish populations and zooplankton population characteristics in Klag Lake in 2001–2003.

Year	Zooplankton seasonal mean biomass ($\text{mg}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$)		
	Total	<i>Daphnia</i>	<i>Daphnia</i> length (mm)
2001	175	3	0.76
2002	222	5	0.81
2003	316	5	0.70

Another indication of sufficient food resources is the age at which the sockeye smolt leave the lake. In general, sockeye juveniles will emigrate from their rearing lake if they achieve sufficient growth in their first year (Koenings et al. 1987). The majority of sockeye smolt that migrated from Klag Lake were age 1 (Table 18). However, the proportion of age 2 smolt increased between 2001 and 2003 (Table 18). This trend towards older smolts coupled with the low abundance of *Daphnia* suggests that the planktivore populations in Klag Lake may be approaching their carrying capacity at these abundance levels. Moreover, in years when stickleback survival is high, sockeye production could be limited by food.

Table 17.—Sockeye fry densities and average weights of age-0 fry in selected Southeast Alaska lakes with important subsistence runs, 2002.

Lake	Date sampled	Fry·100 m ⁻²	Av. wt. age-0 fry (g)
Hetta	Jul 18	44	0.3
Kutlaku	Aug 9	41	1.1
Gut Bay	Aug 23	25	0.5
Klag	Aug 25	23	1.1
Luck	Jul 22	23	0.4
Hoktaheen	Oct 13	18	1.4
Sitkoh	Aug 13	11	1.1
Klawock I	Jul 17	4	0.6
Kanalku	Aug 10	3	1.0
Klawock II	Oct 2	3	1.8
Falls	Aug 24	2	0.7
Kook	Aug 11	2	0.8
Salmon Bay	Sep 22	2	1.0

Note: Fry density is the estimated number of fry per 100 m² of lake surface area. Average weights of age-0 fry vary with sample date; in general, fry sampled later in the have larger average weights than fish sampled at the beginning of the season.

Table 18.—Age composition of adult sockeye salmon in the Klag Lake escapement, 2001–2003.

Age:	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	Sample Size
2001	7.5%	25.1%	55.8%	0.1%	2.7%	4.7%	3.8%	0.2%	991
2002	0.6%	27.5%	44.2%	0.1%	1.4%	16.9%	9.2%		697
2003	3.9%	22.9%	36.5%		1.3%	19.7%	15.7%		638
Mean	4%	25.2%	45.5%	0.1%	1.8%	13.8%	9.6%	0.1%	

We concluded that over-harvest was not a problem for the Klag Lake sockeye runs in 2001–2003, but the timing of the escapement, especially at the beginning of the run, needs to be watched carefully. Some in-season restrictions on the subsistence fishery may be necessary to protect the early part of the sockeye run. If increased escapements do not produce higher returns because of production limitations in the lake, there is no advantage to further restricting overall harvest. In fact, fishery managers could consider increasing harvest opportunities. However, in order to determine if sockeye production is limited in freshwater, researchers will need to estimate the smolt production from each parent year. At minimum, we recommend continued monitoring of the sport and subsistence fisheries and the escapement in the Klag Lake system, to build on the three years of baseline information presented here.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A.—Number of permits, total annual harvests, and average number of sockeye salmon harvested per permit, reported by Klag Bay subsistence permit holders, 1985–2003.

Year	Number of permits	Total sockeye harvest	Number of sockeye per permit
1985	29	582	20
1986	46	919	20
1987	42	816	19
1988	26	629	24
1989	5	114	23
1990	5	115	23
1991	1	23	23
1992	11	276	25
1993	59	1,626	28
1994	31	809	26
1995	28	1,098	39
1996	100	3,381	34
1997	42	1,106	26
1998	33	834	25
1999	42	1,048	25
2000	48	1,082	23
2001	65	1,325	20
2002	94	4,065	43
2003	70	2,475	35
average 1985–1993	25	567	23
average 1994–2003	55	1,722	30

Note: ADF&G compiles harvest information from subsistence permit holders who return this information with their permit. This is not necessarily an accurate accounting of the total subsistence sockeye harvest at Klag Bay.

Appendix B.—Annual harvest of sockeye, chum, and pink salmon, and effort in terms of numbers of boats and total hours fished, in the Khaz Bay seine fishery, 1969–2004.

Year	Annual harvest by species			Number of boats	Total hours fished
	Sockeye	Chum	Pink		
1969	22	538	17,447	14	330
1970				0	288
1971	14	1,036	24,602	5	360
1972				0	336
1973	0	0	0	0	288
1974	0	0	0	0	234
1975	0	0	0	0	132
1976	0	0	0	0	54
1977	0	0	0	0	210
1978	0	0	0	0	141
1979	0	0	0	0	363
1980	0	269	4,629	4	150
1981	411	16,792	372,627	60	399
1982	73	1,759	110,094	20	336
1983	351	3,302	155,351	16	447
1984	93	26,079	126,510	27	312
1985	702	12,630	435,104	31	486
1986	312	13,712	55,114	22	321
1987	155	2,162	16,497	7	123
1988	104	9,041	1,250	14	60
1989	766	12,600	126,394	24	447
1990	185	2,144	12,792	4	294
1991	471	10,005	149,099	14	624
1992	529	82,592	204,105	28	405
1993	131	9,474	2,168	7	265
1994	837	29,732	485,433	26	303
1995	541	52,211	613,509	49	156
1996	1,534	13,648	243,283	20	465
1997	1,960	8,756	74,874	12	389
1998	58	9,959	158,591	14	357
1999	194	30,344	245,267	21	447
2000	708	106,170	737,656	82	255
2001	154	15,581	235,758	19	366
2002	122	60,140	611,383	53	354
2003	396	28,790	450,986	22	678
2004	366	29,222	630,376	32	480
Average	329	17,314	185,321	18	324

Appendix C.—Numbers of fish counted by species, numbers of sockeye salmon sampled for scales, length, and sex, numbers of sockeye salmon marked for mark-recapture experiment, and daily water level and temperature, at the Klag Lake weir, 2003. Marks given were clips to left axillary (LA), left ventral (LV), and dorsal (D) fins; adipose fins were also clipped on all marked fish.

Date	Water depth (ft)	Water temp (°C)	Sockeye salmon marked and sampled			Numbers of salmon counted, by species				
			Mark given	Number marked	Number ASL sampled	Sockeye (daily)	Sockeye (cumulative)	Coho	Pink	Chum
06/24	0.90	16.0								
06/25	0.90	15.0								
06/26	0.98	15.0								
06/27	1.14	14.0								
06/28	1.16	14.0	LA	9	9	9	9	0	0	0
06/29	1.10	14.0	LA	1	1	1	10	0	0	0
06/30	1.02	16.0	LA	3	3	3	13	0	0	0
07/01	0.92	17.0	LA	0	0	0	13	0	0	0
07/02	0.86	16.0	LA	0	0	0	13	0	0	0
07/03	0.85	15.0	LA	0	0	0	13	0	0	0
07/04	1.30	15.0	LA	3	0	3	16	0	0	0
07/05	1.20	17.0	LA	0	0	0	16	0	0	0
07/06	0.95	16.0	LA	21	20	21	37	0	0	0
07/07	0.86	16.0	LA	1	1	1	38	0	0	0
07/08	0.80	17.0	LA	15	15	16	54	0	0	0
07/09	0.74	18.0	LA	0	0	0	54	0	0	0
07/10	0.70	18.0	LA	0	0	0	54	0	0	0
07/11	0.66	19.0	LA	0	0	0	54	0	0	0
07/12	0.63	19.0	LA	2	2	2	56	0	0	0
07/13	0.62	19.0	LA	0	0	0	56	0	0	0
07/14	0.60	18.0	LA	0	0	0	56	0	0	0
07/15	0.59	18.0	LA	0	0	0	56	0	0	0
07/16	0.58	17.0	LA	0	0	0	56	0	0	0
07/17	0.59	17.0	LA	0	0	0	56	0	0	0
07/18	0.59	17.0	LA	0	0	0	56	0	0	0
07/19	0.60	18.0	LA	0	0	0	56	0	0	0

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Date	Water depth (ft)	Water temp (°C)	Sockeye salmon marked and sampled			Numbers of salmon counted, by species				
			Mark given	Number marked	Number ASL sampled	Sockeye (daily)	Sockeye (cumulative)	Coho	Pink	Chum
07/20	0.62	18.0	LA	0	0	0	56	0	0	0
07/21	0.66	17.0	LA	0	0	0	56	0	0	0
07/22	0.80	17.0	LA	78	40	126	182	2	0	0
07/23	0.84	17.0	LA	40	16	42	224	28	0	0
07/24	0.82	18.0	LA	18	4	34	258	0	0	0
07/25	0.76	17.0	LA	19	10	20	278	0	0	0
07/26	0.72	17.0	LV	20	20	74	352	0	1	0
07/27	0.72	16.0	LV	0	0	28	380	1	0	0
07/28	0.72	17.0	LV	0	0	3	383	0	0	0
07/29	1.60	16.0	LV	450	70	4,683	5,066	187	84	1
07/30	1.22	17.0	LV	637	40	2,734	7,800	213	101	1
07/31	1.02	17.0	LV	450	40	1,218	9,018	55	19	0
08/01	0.98	17.0	LV	597	40	674	9,692	33	21	0
08/02	0.96	17.5	LV	50	40	1,211	10,903	71	61	0
08/03	1.16	16.5	LV	89	40	658	11,561	76	47	0
08/04	0.90	17.0	LV	40	40	653	12,214	14	67	0
08/05	1.00	17.0	LV	32	10	471	12,685	42	64	0
08/06	0.90	16.0	LV	33	10	565	13,250	25	44	2
08/07	0.89	17.0	LV	108	10	401	13,651	9	57	0
08/08	0.84	18.0	LV	80	10	213	13,864	5	13	0
08/09	0.78	19.0	LV	67	10	191	14,055	1	21	0
08/10	0.72	16.5	LV	38	10	183	14,238	3	14	0
08/11	0.68	19.0	D	10	10	54	14,292	1	2	0
08/12	0.66	17.0	D	0	0	6	14,298	1	1	0
08/13	0.68	16.5	D	62	10	201	14,499	48	11	0
08/14	0.72	16.5	D	191	10	917	15,416	535	338	0
08/15	1.38	16.0	D	387	10	4,331	19,747	350	5883	0
08/16	1.80	15.0	D	68	10	792	20,539	162	3555	0
08/17	1.72	15.5	D	157	10	169	20,708	125	987	0
08/18	1.54	15.5	D	149	10	159	20,867	131	777	1
08/19	1.26	15.0	D	98	10	98	20,965	105	386	0

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Date	Water depth (ft)	Water temp (°C)	Sockeye salmon marked and sampled			Numbers of salmon counted, by species				
			Mark given	Number marked	Number ASL sampled	Sockeye (daily)	Sockeye (cumulative)	Coho	Pink	Chum
08/20	1.26	15.0	D	166	10	166	21,131	135	331	0
08/21	1.20	15.0	D	92	10	92	21,223	100	308	0
08/22	1.10	14.5	D	47	10	48	21,271	56	55	0
08/23	0.90	13.5	D	41	10	41	21,312	17	62	0
08/24	0.88	14.5	D	83	10	85	21,397	19	262	0
08/25	0.80	14.0	D	70	10	72	21,469	25	163	0
08/26	0.76	14.0	D	23	8	24	21,493	7	38	0
08/27	0.72	15.0	D	2	2	27	21,520	8	127	0
08/28	0.74	14.0	D	0	0	16	21,536	2	65	0
08/29	0.72	15.0	D	0	0	25	21,561	15	55	0
08/30	0.72	14.5	D	51	10	253	21,814	24	338	0
08/31	0.84	14.0	D	0	0	107	21,921	109	1013	0
09/01	1.04	14.0	D	0	0	29	21,950	29	266	0
09/02	1.65	14.0	D	0	0	675	22,625	497	14574	2
09/03	1.62	14.0	D	23	0	51	22,676	79	1510	3
09/04	1.34	14.0	D	0	0	40	22,716	108	606	1
09/05	1.06	13.0	D	13	10	14	22,730	46	222	0
09/06	1.04	14.0	D	0	0	9	22,739	15	76	0
09/07	0.95	14.0	D	0	0	1	22,740	1	66	0
09/08	0.90	14.0	D	0	0	8	22,748	10	119	0
09/09	0.82	13.5	D	0	0	11	22,759	8	107	0
09/10	0.94	14.0	D	0	0	6	22,765	22	145	1
09/11	1.10	13.5	D	0	0	17	22,782	33	496	1
09/12	1.60	13.0	D	0	0	17	22,799	72	485	0
09/13	1.20	13.5	D	0	0	0	22,799	21	75	1

Appendix D.—Seasonal mean biomass of all zooplankton and of *Daphnia* sp. and mean length of *Daphnia* sp. (weighted by abundance) in selected sockeye-producing lakes in Southeast Alaska.

2001				2002				2003			
Lake	Zooplankton biomass (mg · m ⁻²)		<i>Daphnia</i> length (mm)	Lake	Zooplankton biomass (mg · m ⁻²)		<i>Daphnia</i> length (mm)	Lake	Zooplankton biomass (mg · m ⁻²)		<i>Daphnia</i> length (mm)
	Total	<i>Daphnia</i>			Total	<i>Daphnia</i>			Total	<i>Daphnia</i>	
Sitkoh	647	91	0.73	Hoktaheen*	618	11	0.92	Kutlaku	620	80	0.53
Kanalku	371	119	0.96	Sitkoh	569	187	0.79	Tumakof	493	0	na
Salmon Bay	347	62	0.92	Tumakof	454	2	0.63	Klawock	385	32	0.98
Hoktaheen*	316	17	1.05	Klawock	420	21	0.95	Kanalku	372	83	0.74
Kook	299	37	0.88	Kanalku	424	138	0.81	Salmon Bay	324	26	0.77
Luck	233	20	0.86	Kook	311	50	0.81	Klag	316	5	0.70
Klawock	217	15	0.97	Luck	311	18	0.70	Luck	199	6	0.77
Kutlaku	177	24	0.63	Klag	222	5	0.81	Thoms	163	6	0.58
Klag	175	3	0.76	Salmon Bay	195	14	0.81	Eek	128	0	na
Thoms	143	9	0.62	Kutlaku	130	35	0.53	Hetta	45	1	0.63
Falls	104	0	0.70	Thoms	119	7	0.62	Falls	29	1	0.69
Hetta	34	0	0.68	Hetta	47	5	0.70	Sitkoh	na	na	na
Gut	33	1	0.62	Falls	29	1	0.74	Kook	na	na	na
				Gut	20	1	0.65	Gut	na	na	na
Average	238	31	0.80	Average	276	35	0.75	Average	279	22	0.71
Median	217	17	0.76	Median	267	13	0.77	Median	316	6	0.70